

MONROE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN LAND AUTHORITY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

December 16, 2015

The Monroe County Comprehensive Plan Land Authority (MCLA) Advisory Committee held a meeting on Wednesday, December 16, 2015 in Suite 104 of the Monroe Regional Service Center (State building) located at 2796 Overseas Highway, Marathon, Florida. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Susan Sprunt at 9:00 AM. Present and answering roll call in addition to Chairman Susan Sprunt were Mitchell Cook, Susan Matthews, and Barbara Neal. Bryan Green was absent. Also present were Executive Director Mark Rosch, Office Manager Dina Gambuzza, Counsel Ginny Stones, Assistant County Administrator Kevin Wilson, Employee Services Director Teresa Aguiar, and a member of the public.

The first item was additions and deletions to the agenda. There were none. Ms. Neal made a motion to approve the agenda as submitted and Mr. Cook seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 4/0.

The next item was ranking of the applications received for the position of Executive Director. Mr. Rosch addressed the Committee regarding the application process to date. The Governing Board has directed that a Review Committee consisting of the Land Authority Advisory Committee, Teresa Aguiar, and Kevin Wilson conduct the ranking. Therefore, the six members of the Review Committee present today will be voting on this agenda item. The position was advertised for thirty days locally and also via four professional organizations. The 34 applications received were distributed to each member of the Review Committee in advance of today's meeting for review and each member has provided his/her individual ranking of the applicants into high, medium, and low categories. Staff has compiled the results of the individual rankings into a table sorted alphabetically by applicant name.

Mr. Rosch asked each member of the Review Committee to review the alphabetical table and confirm that the ranking they provided has been accurately compiled. Ms. Stones performed this task for Mr. Green's ranking, since Mr. Green was absent from the meeting. Ms. Stones and each member of the Review Committee said the rankings had been accurately compiled. Mr. Rosch then presented and discussed a second table of results which showed the same information sorted by each applicant's total score.

Chairman Sprunt then asked for comments from the Review Committee regarding the compiled rankings. The Review Committee members discussed the results. During this discussion County Attorney Bob Shillinger entered the meeting room.

Following discussion, Chairman Sprunt asked if there were any comments from the public. Gigi Varnum addressed the Review Committee.

Following public input, Mr. Wilson made a motion to approve the table sorted by each applicant's total score as the Review Committee's ranking. Ms. Neal seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 6/0.

The Review Committee then discussed strengths and weaknesses of the top three applicants. The comments offered were as follows:

- Guerra – Strengths include experience with the Miami-Dade Environmentally Endangered Lands Program; knowledge of South Florida; and land acquisition experience. Weaknesses cited were the absence of Keys experience and limited autonomy of action for land acquisition.
- Pattison - Strengths include extensive Keys experience; strong planning background; knowledge about Keys issues; addressing the issue of balancing property rights with public needs; and a strong relevant job history. A weakness cited was the absence of GIS experience.
- Barrowclough – Strengths include significant land acquisition experience; experience focused on land conservation work; and GIS experience. Weaknesses cited were the absence of a graduate degree; frequent job changes; and uncertainty as to the amount of experience in managing staff.

Ms. Neal made a motion that the Review Committee highly recommend the top three applicants (Guerra, Pattison, and Barrowclough). If the Board wishes to go beyond the top three applicants, the Review Committee recommends the next five applicants (Edwards, Barnett, Bell, Boland, and Walker). Mr. Wilson seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 6/0.

Mr. Wilson made a motion to approve the above comments about the strengths and weaknesses of the top three applicants as a summary that is not intended to be all inclusive and not intended to replace a review of the applications. Mr. Cook seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 6/0.

At the conclusion of this item there was a short recess and Kevin Wilson, Teresa Aguiar, and Bob Shillinger left the meeting.

The MCLA Advisory Committee meeting resumed.

The next item was approval of the November 19, 2015 meeting minutes. Ms. Matthews made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Ms. Neal seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 4/0.

The next item was approval to purchase property for conservation. Mr. Rosch addressed the Committee regarding the following proposed acquisitions:

- a) Lot 5, part of Tract A, Ramrod Shores Third Addition on Ramrod Key. The subject property is a 1.09 acre open water site and consists of mangrove, salt marsh, and buttonwood vegetation. The lot is zoned Improved Subdivision (IS) and Native Area (NA) and is designated Tier 3 – Infill Area. The owner has agreed to sell the property for a price of \$12,214. Ms. Matthews made a motion to approve purchasing the property for the \$12,214 price and Mr. Cook seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 4/0.
- b) Block 4, Lot 37, Eden Pines Colony on Big Pine Key. The subject property is a 5,000 square foot canal lot and consists of tropical hardwood hammock and exotic vegetation. The lot is zoned Improved Subdivision (IS) with an overlay of Area of Critical County Concern (ACCC) and is designated Tier 2 – Transition and Sprawl Area. The owner is considering selling the property for the price of \$25,000. Mr. Cook made a motion to approve purchasing the property for the \$25,000 price and Susan Matthews seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 4/0.

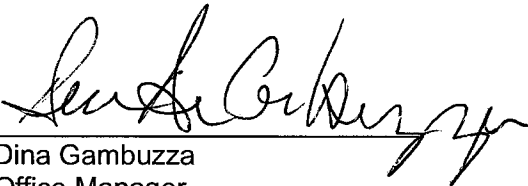
The next item was approval of the 2016 meeting schedule. Following discussion, Mr. Cook made a motion to approve the item and Ms. Neal seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 4/0.

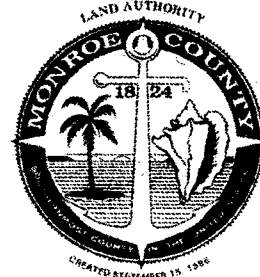
The next item was the Executive Director's report. Mr. Rosch distributed information and reported on recent events including the following:

- a) The Land Authority closed five transactions since the last Advisory Committee meeting.
- b) Mr. Rosch addressed the Committee regarding the status of Perry Court in Key West. The City Commission approved putting the proposed acquisition on the ballot for a March referendum. The property is not yet on the Land Authority Acquisition List and would need to be nominated by the City if the Land Authority is to participate in the acquisition.
- c) The Florida Department of Transportation will be requesting the Land Authority to donate an 18 foot strip of land along the front of three Salt Pond parcels in Key West as part of an improvement project for South Roosevelt Boulevard.
- d) The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 21, 2016 at 9:00 AM at the Monroe Regional Service Center (State building) in Suite 104 located at 2796 Overseas Highway.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:56 AM.

Prepared by:


Dina Gambuzza
Office Manager



Approved by the Advisory Committee on January 21, 2016.